

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/827,169	JACKSON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas K. Pham	2121	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 09/30/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16 and 28.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 1-16 and 28 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While Schoppers (U.S. Patent No. 5,392,382) discloses a reactive planning system that automatically generates a universal plan for achieving specified goals. The universal plan is derived from a set of primitive and hierarchy of deductive rules governing operation of one or more actuators, and the specified goals. Schoppers does not teach grouping a plurality of actuators (implementation units) comprising at least one of the plurality of actuators or a plurality of actuator sub-modules, wherein each of the plurality of actuator sub-module includes at least one of the plurality of actuators; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

And Tsuruta et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,299,287) discloses a problem solving system including apparatus for automatically decomposes a goal including subgoals, a subgoal into subsubgoals recursively. After recursively decomposing a goal, a strategy for direct execution is selected for the goal, which is directly executed by the strategy. Tsuruta does not teach a plurality of actuators grouped into a plurality of modules comprising at least one of the plurality of actuators or a plurality of a plurality of actuator sub-modules, wherein each of the plurality of actuator sub-module includes at least one of the plurality of actuators; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

Neither of these references taken either alone or in combination discloses a method and device for allocating a system instruction to a plurality of actuators having all the claimed

Art Unit: 2121

features of applicant's instant invention, specifically including: a plurality of actuators grouped into a plurality of modules comprising at least one of the plurality of actuators or a plurality of a plurality of actuator sub-modules, wherein each of the plurality of actuator sub-module includes at least one of the plurality of actuators; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention. Also, there is no motivation to combine the Schoppers reference with the Tsuruta reference to meet these limitations. It is for these reasons that applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner *Thomas Pham*; whose telephone number is (571) 272-3689, Monday - Thursday from 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM EST or contact Supervisor *Mr. Anthony Knight* at (571) 272-3687.

Any response to this office action should be mailed to: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450**. Responses may also be faxed to the **official fax number (571) 273-8300**.

Thomas Pham
Patent Examiner



December 5, 2005



Anthony Knight
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600